

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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Contact: Lauren Gregg
Phone: 919/733-5612

GOV. EASLEY APPOINTS BILZI AND WITHERSPOON AND REAPPOINTS FERTENBAUGH TO BUSINESS AND EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley has appointed **Steve Bilzi** of Wilmington and **Dorothy M. Witherspoon** of Jefferson and has reappointed **Cindy S. Fertenbaugh** of Concord to the N.C. State Board of Education's Business and Education Technology Alliance.

Bilzi is the president of Bilzi Technology Consulting in Wilmington. He is a member of the New Hanover County Board of Education, N.C. School Board Association Board of Directors, Wilmington Rotary Club and the Wilmington Sports Commission Board of Directors. Bilzi has received the Governor's Volunteer Award three times and the Volunteer of the Year Award from Bradley Creek Elementary School. He received his bachelor's degree in earth and space sciences from State University of New York at Stony Brook.

Witherspoon is a teaching pastor at Highlands Community Church in Jefferson. She is a member of the Ashe County Board of Education, N.C. School Boards Association Board of Directors, N.C. Department of Public Instruction Commission for Closing the Gap and Raising Achievement and is founder and a member of the Ashe County Community Foundation. Witherspoon received the Education Volunteer of the Year Award in 1992 from Ashe County Schools. She attended St. Mary's University in Maryland and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kentucky.

Fertenbaugh is a project manager with EDS (formerly known as Electronic Data Systems) in Charlotte. She is former chairman and a current member of the Cabarrus County Board of Education. She is also former chairman and current volunteer with Junior Achievement of Cabarrus County. Fertenbaugh received the National Junior Achievement Silver Leadership Award in 2000 and the Cabarrus Regional Chamber of Commerce "Envi Award 2002" for her participation in the Envision Cabarrus project. She received her bachelor's degree in mathematics from St. Mary's College at Notre Dame, Ind.

The alliance ensures that the effective use of technology is built into the North Carolina school system for the purpose of preparing a globally competitive workforce and citizenry for the 21st century. The alliance has 18 members, each serving a two-year term. The governor appoints five members.

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